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IAC-M-300
30 July 1957

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
IAC Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1045, 30 July 1957

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding*

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Lieutenant General Charles P. Cabell
Presiding*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Hugh S. Cumming, Jr., Special Assistant, Intelligence,
Department of State
Major General Robert A. Schow, * Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence,
Department of the Army
Colonel Harry J. Lemley, Jr., * acting for Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence, Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy
Major General James H. Walsh, acting for Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence, United States Air Force
Colonel E. G. Van Orman, acting for Deputy Director for Intelligence,
The Joint Staff
Mr. Charles H. Reichardt, acting for Atomic Energy Commission
representative to the IAC
Mr. Ralph R. Roach, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation
representative to the IAC

* Part of Meeting

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1. Approval of Minutes
23 July Meeting
(IAC-M-299)

Approved as written.

2. Review of Crisis Situations

- a. Watch Committee Report
No. 364

Noted. With respect to paragraph C of the Conclusions, the Chairman discussed with the members the nature and possible military implications of certain Israeli activity in the Jerusalem area, as described in a recent military attache report from Amman.

- b. Guatemala Situation

The Chairman commented on and exchanged views with the members on information and intelligence bearing on the recent assassination of President Castillo Armas, including the background and possible motives of the assassin, the identity of any groups who might be implicated and the possible political effect of these developments.

In this connection, the Chairman referred to the alerts procedure as used in reporting the Guatemalan assassination, noting the relative speed with which this information had been transmitted by CIA from Guatemala and subsequently to the Watch Officers of the various IAC agencies in Washington. The Chairman suggested that it might be desirable for the members to review the manner in which this case was handled by their Watch Officers as a means of studying generally the watch procedures used within their respective offices.

- c. Taiwan Strait

Admiral Frost raised for discussion the question of the Taiwan Strait situation, particularly with respect to the possible timing of renewed military or naval activity in the area.

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4. Review of NSCID's

- a. NSCID No. 3
(IAC-D-105/3, 22 July)

This draft revision was preliminarily approved, subject to the amendment of the last sentence of paragraph 1, b, (2) to read: "The Departments and Agencies will contribute to the CIA current intelligence publications as practicable." After discussion, it was also agreed that the second sentence of paragraph 3, c should be reviewed again when these directives are presented for final IAC consideration, to determine whether it should be included in the final form of the directive.

- b. NSCID No. 4
(IAC-D-105/4, 22 July)

Approved this draft revision preliminarily, subject to the substitution of "Central Intelligence Agency" for "Director of Central Intelligence" in the first line of paragraphs 1 and 2.

- c. NSCID No. 6
(IAC-D-105/6, 22 July)

Approved this draft revision preliminarily, subject to the substitution of "Central Intelligence Agency" for "Director of Central Intelligence" in the first line of paragraphs 1 and 2 and the deletion of "Federal" in line two of paragraph 1.

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5. Scope of NIE 11-2-57 (Part II) and
of Future IAC Responsibility for
Nuclear Weapon Allocations
(IAC-D-10/24, 25 July)

Dr. Scoville explained the reasons for submitting the issues involved in this matter (as outlined in his memorandum to the IAC of 25 July) to the IAC for resolution and the members discussed various aspects of this question in considerable detail. During the course of this exchange of views a CIA memorandum on a possible alternative "C-Plus" was also distributed to the members. After some discussion, the Chairman asked the members for specific statements as to their positions regarding the proposed alternatives and noted that there appeared to be a clear difference of views, including a split in the military members. The Chairman stated that, because of the importance he attached to the matter, he believed that the question, in accordance with established procedure (ref: NSCID No. 1, para. 3, a), should be submitted initially to the Secretary of Defense and then to the National Security Council for resolution. General Cabell raised a question as to the form in which the issues should be placed before the policymakers for any decision. After additional discussion, the members agreed that, prior to any presentation of this matter to the policymakers, two separate papers should be prepared by the working group along the lines of Alternative B on the one hand, and Alternative D or C plus on the other hand, which papers should then be submitted for IAC review and such further action as the members desired to take.

6. Form of NIE Conclusions

The Chairman noted the desirability of attempting to revise the form of conclusions now used in NIE's, particularly with a view to presenting more clearly the essential facts and possible alternative developments. He referred to suggestions along these lines by various readers of NIE's and stressed especially the importance of stimulating a greater interest in estimates by high-level policymakers. Mr. Kent stated that new-style conclusions, which departed substantially from the language of the text, had been drafted for possible use in connection with the forthcoming Sudan and French estimates. The members then concurred in the Chairman's suggestion that, for an experimental period, the Board of National Estimates in coordination with the IAC representatives should prepare such new-style conclusions for any estimates submitted for IAC consideration.

7. Executive Session

Mr. Dulles requested an executive session, at the conclusion of which General Cabell assumed the Chair and presided over the balance of the meeting.

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a. Approved as amended.

b. Noted the post-mortem on this estimate.

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d. Approved the release of this estimate to USIA.

9. Proposed SNIE

The Chairman circulated a communication from Mr. Cumming to the Director of Central Intelligence outlining a request for an SNIE which would consider certain intelligence problems pertinent to the establishment of a system of monitoring a possible agreement for suspension of nuclear tests. The members agreed to undertake such an estimate, with the target date for completion to be set on the basis of a further check by Mr. Cumming as to the potential consumers' requirements.

Adjournment: 1255

Secretary

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